



PATENT
Attorney Docket No. FORS-04323

#218
4/18/03
JB

In re Application of: Ma et al.
Serial No.: 09/577,304
Filed: 05/24/00
Entitled: **Improved Enzymes for the Detection of Specific Nucleic Acid Sequences**
Group No.: 1652
Examiner: C. Patterson

**AMENDMENT & RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
MAILED OCTOBER 7, 2002, AND TO ADVISORY
ACTION MAILED JANUARY 17, 2003**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is, on the date shown below, being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Dated: April 7, 2003

By: Mary Ellen Waite

Mary Ellen Waite

Sir:

The following communication is filed in conjunction with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), and is responsive to the Final Office Action mailed October 7, 2002, and the Advisory Action mailed January 17, 2003. A petition for a three month extension of time, from January 7, 2003, to April 7, 2003, is submitted herewith. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

PLEASE AMEND THE SPECIFICATION AS FOLLOWS:

Please replace page 97 of the Specification with the substitute page 97 provided herewith.

REMARKS

The Examiner has noted incorrect alignment and the duplication of a column in Table 3. Applicants submit herewith a substitute copy of Table 3 amended to correct these typographical errors. Table 3 is on page 97 of the specification. A substitute page 97 having the corrected Table 3 is provided herewith. The data contained in the corrected Table 3 is the same as that in Table 3 as filed, and as such does not constitute new matter.

Claims 1-8, 10, 12-15, 18, 19 and 50-57 are pending in the present application.